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growing and stock raising county in the world ...
Winnipeg [1888]



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DENNIS COUNTY.

MANITOBA.

*The Finest WHEAT GROWING and STOCK RAISING
County in the World.*

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CONCERNING THE LANDS IN



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LANDS OPEN FOR HOMESTEAD AND
PRE-EMPTION ENTRY.

CONTAINING THE BEST MAP OF THE PROVINCE YET PUBLISHED
AND A MAP OF THE COUNTY, SHOWING
EVERY SECTION.

EDITED AND COMPILED BY

W. J. Palmer, Virden, Dennis County, Man.

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FREE HOMES FOR ALL.



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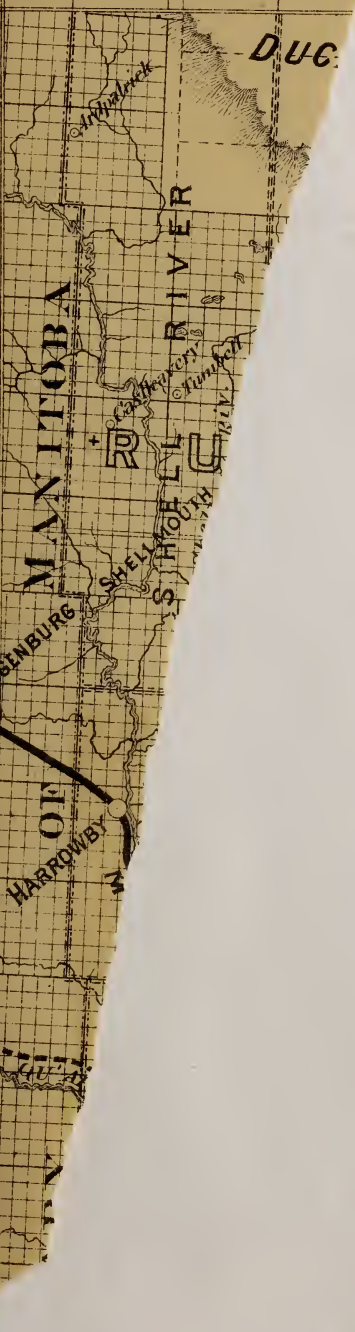
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COUNTY OF DENNIS.

BOUNDARIES.

The County of Dennis is situated on the extreme western border of the Province of Manitoba, and extends from range twenty-three west of the First Principal Meridian right up to Range 30, which is the boundary between the Province and the Northwest Territories. It has an area of about nine hundred and sixty-seven thousand acres, its greatest length being forty-two miles and its greatest breadth thirty-six miles.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Perhaps there is no county in the whole of Manitoba whose physical features are so diversified as those of Dennis. From rolling prairie on the south and west, with hardly a tree in sight, to the picturesque bluffs of the eastern and northern portions; the former growing wheat scarce equalled in the world, and the latter unsurpassed for raising stock.

The county, too, has more than its share of streams, rivers and lakes. Nearly in the centre of its northern boundary the Assiniboine river enters; once, as its banks to this day attest, a lordly river, and even now by no means an insignificant one. It winds its sinuous way along the valley, here and there seen in the open, and again lost sight of in a dense bush of oaks and elm. What a cattle country is here! Entirely protected by the high river banks from all wind, thousands of cattle could roam at will, almost concealed from view by the long grass. On the western side the Pipestone creek, coming into the county in township 10, waters the western and southern portions and empties itself, after a course over fifty miles in length, into Oak Lake. Oak river in the northeast, and Plum creek in the southeast, are also considerable streams; besides these are smaller creeks too numerous to mention, but which are invaluable in the long summer time. Oak Lake, the largest body of water in the county, is situated in the Municipality of Sifton; it is about five miles long and about three and a half miles in its widest part. The land in the immediate neighborhood is rather swampy and unsuited for grain growing, but is excellent hay land and cannot be surpassed for

stock. There is plenty of timber in the immediate vicinity, and this alone makes the winter many degrees less severe than on the open prairie. Wood for fuel is easy of access in any part of the county but more especially in the northern and eastern portions.

Now turn to the map and look at the vast open prairies stretching through the Municipalities of Wallace and Pipestone. These are the grain growing portions of the county. The soil for the most part in these districts is good black loam with a subsoil of clay. In some portions of the county the soil is lighter than in others, but all over the level prairies will grow wheat for many years to come without manuring being resorted to, and in some specially favored localities, such as along the valley of the Pipestone and in the northern part of Wallace and Woodworth, the soil is practically inexhaustible.

MINERALS.

The county is fairly rich in mineral wealth. Limestone is in some parts abundant, and the settlers for the most part burn their own lime. Deposits of ochre in large quantities have been found near Oak Lake, and the formation of the whole district is favorable to the discovery of coal. Stone for building purposes is found on the surface in many parts and is chiefly granite of both the red and grey variety. It has been employed with great success for both city and farm buildings.

SETTLEMENT AND MEANS OF PROCURING LAND.

To the intending settler the first question that arises is, how shall I procure land? The means of procuring a farm are many and various, and suited to the capacity and capital of all. The simplest form is to secure a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres; this costs but ten dollars as an entrance fee, and a title to the land can be procured from the Crown after three years if the conditions as to cultivation and residence have been complied with. The next easiest method is to purchase land from the many land companies and syndicates holding land in the county. Of these lands the Canadian Pacific railway lands are perhaps the cheapest, being about at the rate of \$2.50 per acre. The terms of payment are light and are generally spread over ten years. The Hudson's Bay Company and the Canada Northwest Land Company also own

considerable land in the county. Up to the present none but unimproved lands have been mentioned, but there are a number of farms in the county for sale at reasonable prices on which buildings have been erected and on many of which a large portion of land has been brought under cultivation.

A descriptive list of some of these lands is given at the end of this book, and doubtless if the intending settler can afford to put some capital into his farm, this is the best kind of purchase he can make. He is not burdened with any conditions of cultivation and can immediately reap a remunerative return for his outlay.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

As will be seen on reference to the map, the county is divided into four municipalities—Wallace, Pipestone, Woodworth and Sifton. Each municipality has its Reeve and Council, elected annually by the people. The duties of the Council are to levy necessary taxes in the municipality and to see to the maintenance and construction of all roads and bridges.

TOWNS.

There are four towns in the county, all on the direct line of the Canadian Pacific railway, and are—Elkhorn in the west, Virden nearly in the centre of the county, and Oak Lake and Griswold in the east.

EDUCATION.

Canada as a whole prides itself on its methods of free education, and Manitoba in her position of youngest Province in the Dominion has had the experiences of the older Provinces to draw from. At the present time there are over five hundred public schools in the Province. Of these the County of Denis claims twenty-four. The teachers are most carefully selected and have to pass rigid competitive examinations before they can qualify, those of the higher certificates having special preparation for the work at the Winnipeg Training (Normal) School. The schools are supported by taxation on all lands, and there is no extra tax of any kind in the way of fees on children attending. A Board of Trustees, elected by the ratepayers in any school district, is the school executive for that district.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

All towns on the line of rail have a daily mail both from the east and from the west. The country post offices have weekly mail.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

One of the greatest advantages to the settlement of a prairie country is the small expense incurred in making and keeping the public roads in repair. The prairie sod is the very best roadbed possible, and lasts for years. Of course, in a sparsely settled country the original road allowances made in surveys are of but little account, as trails are made across vacant lands in all directions. But when a country becomes fairly well settled, such as Dennis is to-day, the road allowances soon become defined. An allowance has been made in the survey of the country for a road ninety-nine feet wide around every section. (A section is a portion of land one mile square, containing 640 acres.) A man farming any quarter section (160 acres) then has the road on two sides of his farm. On all roads leading to the towns in the county are to be found well-built bridges, spanning rivers, creeks or where required.

Three notable bridges, one north of Virden, one north of Griswold, and the other north of Oak Lake, span the Assiniboine river. These bridges were erected partly by public subscription and partly by Government aid, and are free to all. They are built with special regard to the ice coming down in the spring, and have well proved the skill of the designer.

CULTIVATION.

The price of wheat for many reasons has been low, having averaged to the time of writing 50 cents per bushel; but, as invariably takes place, a considerable rise in price is anticipated in the spring. Barley fetches about 35 cents per bushel of 48 lbs. It is hardly fair to give the present price of oats, about 25 cents per bushel of 34 lbs., as an average price. Oats, the market for which has up to the present depended greatly on local consumption, vary in the course of the year from 22 to 50 cents per bushel. Potatoes, another article mostly consumed locally, vary much in price from 25 cents per bushel of 60 lbs., in the fall, to 75 cents per bushel in the summer, before the new crop comes in.

STOCK.

As has been previously shown, many parts of the county are specially suited for stock, and there are at the present time many large herds of horned stock in the county, notably those of Sir George Stephen, 200 head ; Mr. John McKinnon, 150 head ; Messrs. Bouverie & Routledge, 120 head, and Carr Bros., 150 head.

No country in the world, not even Australia, is so well adapted to raising sheep as the vast prairies of Manitoba. For a long time many fancied objections were raised and the farmers feared to venture ; but now the entire suitability of the country for the raising of sheep has been proved without doubt. Nowhere can be found such mutton. The one drawback, if it be a drawback, is the fact that the sheep fatten too rapidly. You must tie a sheep up in a stone quarry in this country to keep it poor.

Pigs, as a general rule, can be fed very cheaply. There is always a certain quantity of refuse grain, and bran and shorts are cheap. It is a good sign that a quantity of pure-bred stock is brought into the county every year, thus the grades are improving all the time.

NATURAL RESOURCES.

The natural food resources of the country are good. In the spring time, millions of duck and geese pass over, staying a short time on their journey north ; many of them too stay and breed here. The country in the vicinity of Oak Lake is specially frequented by wild duck. In the woods the jumping deer abounds, and it is no unusual thing for a hunter to secure an elk. Hares, rabbits, prairie chicken and partridges are numerous, affording many a toothsome meal to the settler. The fur-bearing animals are many. Along the river banks the beaver, otter, mink and muskrat ; on the prairie the fox, skunk and badger ; and in the bush the lynx, and occasionally a bear, are found. The rivers and creeks are full of fish, among which are the pike, pickerel, white fish, gold eye, and many others. In addition to the birds mentioned, there is abundance of teal, snipe, widgeon, curlew, and almost every known kind of edible waterfowl. Furs are in good demand, some of them, such as the beaver and otter, being very valuable.

There are two agricultural societies in the county, subsidized by the Government on the dollar for dollar principle. The annual shows of these societies are a genuine surprise to strangers unacquainted with the vast resources of the country.

BOSS-HILL FARM.

Boss-Hill farm, adjoining the townsite of Virden, is the property of the Hon. F. P. Bouverie and Mr. Tom Routledge. The farm consists of sixteen hundred acres, and during the coming spring about six hundred acres will be cropped. There is a quantity of good stock on the farm, consisting of sixty head of horned stock, thirty-two horses, thirty sheep, pigs and poultry of all kinds. Last season the owners purchased a Hereford bull, "2nd Duke of Hereford," from stock imported by Sir Donald A. Smith, and this year have purchased whilst in England a Shorthorn pedigree bull from the Earl of Lathom's herd. This beast, together with about fifty head of cattle, a stallion and a pedigree ram, will be brought out from England this spring, and will make Boss-Hill farm renowned throughout the Province for pedigree stock. The buildings on the farm are excellent and especially adapted to the requirements of the country.

RALPHTON.

The following is a good description of a farm in the north-east part of the county. Mr. Helliwell came here in the early days, before the railway. He says: "In your letter you ask me for a description of my farm. It contains 640 acres, being section 1, township 12, range 24. There is about 300 acres of it under cultivation, 100 acres fenced in for pasture, and about 100 acres of wood land. It is rolling prairie; soil, a sandy loam. My buildings are on the south side of the timber, so they are well sheltered, and in the winter time I do not feel the storm and am able to let my young cattle run without their being housed, and I find they thrive and do well. I have considerable stock, composed of horses, cattle and sheep, and am a firm believer in mixed farming. My buildings are all made of logs, as I had not the means to build of lumber, but I hope some day to do so, but in the meantime the log cabin serves its purposes very well."

LAGGAN FARM.

Laggan farm is the property of Mr. Wm. McDonald, Reeve of Pipestone, and is on section 36, township 9, range 27. The

adjacent section also belongs to Mr. McDonald, and two of his sons have three-quarters of a section between them, which they work with their father's land; thus the combined farms have an acreage of 1,440 acres. Of this 650 acres have been plowed. Last year Mr. McDonald had the following quantity of land under crop:

Wheat, 310 acres; average yield, 35 bushels per acre.

Barley, 10 acres; average yield, 40 bushels.

Oats, 70 acres; average yield, 55 bushels.

Making a total of over fifteen thousand bushels of grain. He has capital buildings, ninety acres of fenced pasture, and about thirty head of stock. His potatoes averaged 250 bushels per acre, and he has succeeded well with what turnips he has grown. During the coming spring he will crop five hundred acres and summer fallow one hundred and fifty acres. Mr. McDonald settled in this country in 1883, and to use his own words, "I am well satisfied with the country and consider it first-class." He also said, "People in Ontario are led to believe that we here in Manitoba cannot get water in the winter time, but have to melt snow for the stock. Now, I want you to tell them that I have on my farm a stream of water running both winter and summer." In answer to a question, he said, "A man can hold land here very cheaply, but if he wants to farm on a large scale he must have some capital." Mr. McDonald's success is an example of what any settler may attain with push, energy, perseverance and ability.

Dr. Guest, of St. Mary's, Ontario, started farming in the County of Dennis in 1883, on section 25, township 10, range 25. This section is a fair average of the land in the vicinity. On it there is thirty acres of timber, good pasture, and never-failing springs of running water. The arable portion of the section is unequalled for wheat raising. Last year Dr. Guest had two hundred acres of wheat, and the heaviest crop yet raised on the land was thirty-five bushels to the acre in 1885. The buildings are of the best in the county and consist of a two-storey frame house, with good cellars, bathroom, pantry and eleven rooms; a large frame granary and a stone stable. The stock numbers all told about twenty-three head, horses and horned cattle. This farm is illustrated as an example of the manner in which wheat-growing and stock-raising may be profitably engaged in on the same farm, it having every natu-

ral advantage necessary to the success of mixed farming, and is but one of many such all over the county.

Mr. John Wright, of Oxford, England, came to this country in 1884, and took up a homestead on section 22, township 11, range 28. The soil is a deep sandy loam. There are sixty acres of land under cultivation, and Mr. Wright's crop last year averaged as follows: Wheat, 30 bushels per acre; barley, 43 bushels per acre; and oats, 53 bushels per acre. The latter were of a white variety and weighed 43 pounds to the measured bushel. Potatoes were very prolific, the variety grown being the early rose; they averaged 260 bushels to the acre. Mr. Wright has a good frame house, stable and granary; eight head of stock and all implements necessary. He expresses himself as well satisfied with the country. It must be remembered that Mr. Wright never farmed before he came to this country, and he has run his farm himself without practically any hired labor. He is a married man.

VIRDEN ROLLER MILLS.

Merchant Milling & Gristing.

Fitted with the latest Roller Process Machinery, and making a grade of Flour not excelled in the Province.

A supply of Flour, Bran and Shorts always kept on hand

VIRDEN, DENNIS CO., MANITOBA.

ADAMSON & CO.,

BANKERS

Virden, Dennis Co., Man.

Current Accounts Kept and a General Banking Business done.

Drafts issued on all points in Canada, London (Eng.,) and New York.

STERLING EXCHANGE PURCHASED.

Scrip, C.P.R. Land Grant Bonds, and Canada Northwest Land Co. Stock, for Sale.

NELSON ST., - - - - VIRDEN.

WELLINGTON ELLIOT.

ROBERT TRUMBELL.

'THE VIRDEN HOUSE,'

ELLIOT & TRUMBELL, Proprietors,

VIRDEN, - - MANITOBA

STRANGERS arriving in town will find at the "VIRDEN HOUSE"
every home comfort.

PRICES MODERATE.

6th AVE., VIRDEN, nearly opposite C.P.R. Depot.

J. S. YOUNG,

Dealer in General Stock of

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,

Ready-Made Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Crockery, etc., etc.,

AT LOWEST PRICES.

NELSON STREET, VIRDEN.

JOSEPH A. MERRICK,
DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,
BOOTS AND SHOES,
Ready - Made Clothing,
GENT'S FURNISHINGS.

SETTLERS' OUTFITS SUPPLIED.

Call and see the stock, and you will not go elsewhere.

7th AVENUE - - - - - VIRDEN.

FREEBORN'S MEDICAL HALL.

Patent Medicines,



Druggists' Sundries,

Pure Drugs

and Chemicals.

Sponges, Combs, Brushes, Perfumes and Trusses.

Wedding Rings, Watches, Clocks and Jewelry.

Fancy Goods in Leather, Plush, Glass and Bronze.

Ladies' Hand Satchels, Lunch Baskets, &c.

School Books and Stationery of all kinds.

Musical Instruments, &c., &c.

ISSUER OF MARRIAGE LICENSES. Sole Agent for Laurence's Optical Glasses

Dr. Young's Office in connection with Drug Store.

 Wholesale dealer in Wines, Liquors and Cigars. 

NELSON ST., VIRDEN, MAN.

Trust and Loan Company of Canada.

Imperial Loan and Investment Co. of Canada.

LOANS EFFECTED ON

IMPROVED FARM AND TOWN PROPERTY.

Private Money for Investment.

IMPROVED FARMS FOR SALE.

Apply to

T. ROUTLEDGE,

Boss Hill Farm,

Virden.

or to

H. H. GOULTER,

Nelson Street,

Virden.

McLEAN & MOONEY,

LUMBER DEALERS.

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lath, Shingles, Doors, Windows,
Mouldings, etc.

All Kinds of Lumber Supplied by Contract at Lowest
Possible Prices.

HARDWARE, ETC.

Wellington Street, Virden.

The Virden Advance

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

Published in Virden, Manitoba, every Thursday,

Containing a large amount of Local News of the

County of Dennis

AND ADJOINING COUNTIES.

The Virden Advance is the only Paper published in the
County of Dennis, and has a large circulation
among the Farmers.

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Security.

Large Number of Improved Farms in favorable localities
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*Dealers in Stoves, Farm Implements, Carpenter's Tools,
Tinware, Cutlery, Paints, Oils, Glass, Putty,
Woodware, Furniture,*

And a general stock of Shelf and Heavy Hardware.

Lumber, Shingles, Lath, Windows, Doors, Mouldings, etc.

Settlers can obtain full Building and Furnishing Outfits
without going elsewhere.

T. & J. JONES,
Wholesale and Retail Butchers

—AND—

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Beef, Mutton, Pork, Veal, Sausage, Fish,
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B. MEEK,

GENERAL MERCHANT

—DEALER IN—

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Dry Goods, Ready-Made Clothing.

SOLE AGENT FOR OXFORD TWEEDS.

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NOTICE TO IMMIGRANTS.

Don't bring your Furniture with you and pay Excessive
Freights, but call at

C. BURGESS' FURNITURE STORE

On Nelson Street, Virden,

(Next to Cain's Hardware Store,)

And you will be able to furnish your new homes for
very little money.

A. M. CAIN,

Stoves, Paints, Oils, Glass

AND FULL STOCK OF HARDWARE.

CHURNS AND WOODWARE.

Tin Smithing in all its Branches.

Farm and Carpenter's Tools, Cutlery, Guns, Powder,
Shot and Sportman's Requisites.

NELSON STREET, - - - VIRDEN.

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IMPORTER OF

Dress Goods, Silks, Merveilleux.

Satins, Plushes, Velvets, Carpets, &c.

READY-MADE CLOTHING, BOOTS & SHOES,

Gent's Furnishings, Hats, Caps, Stationery, &c.

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7th AVENUE, - - - - - VIRDEN.

SIMPSON BROS.,

DEALERS IN AND IMPORTERS OF

☼ HORSES, ‡ CATTLE, ‡ & C. ☼

Good Farm Horses always for sale.

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Cattle, Horses, Sheep always on hand,

FOR SALE OR TO TRADE.

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GROCERY AND LIQUOR STORE

Also, (adjoining the above,) a well built One Storey

FRAME STORE,

With living rooms behind, now occupied as a

DRUG STORE.

The Lots on which these Buildings are situated are on 7th Street, in the

BEST BUSINESS PART

of the

TOWN OF VIRDEN,

ALSO,

City Property in Brandon and Regina, and

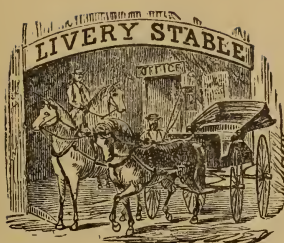
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TERMS OF PAYMENT EASY.

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Virden Livery, Feed and Sale Stables.

Special attention paid to the wants of Commercial Travellers.

GOOD HORSES AND RIGS

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Can always be had on short notice.

A FIRST-CLASS DRAY

Always at the disposal of anyone requiring anything in this line.

ALL CHARGES MODERATE.

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W. G. WYATT & SONS, **Builders, Contractors**

AND LUMBER DEALERS.

HARDWARE, &c.

7th Avenue, VIRDEN.

VIRDEN.

Virden, the County Town, is built on Section 22, Township 10, Range 26, in the Municipality of Wallace, and being within three miles of the exact centre of the county, is admirably situated. It is on the main line of the C. P. R., 182 miles west of Winnipeg. Virden is one of the many towns which, as the railway advanced across the country, sprang into existence as if by magic. But five years ago the country for miles around was but a barren waste, scarcely trodden by the white man's foot. The railway came with its giant strides across the level prairies, the hardy pioneers of civilization following it in its wake.

Unlike many towns further east, which owe their existence to the "boom" of '81 and '82, Virden has never become the prey of real-estate speculators. Born after the "boom," her trade has been of legitimate growth, and every dollar invested in the town is kept there by the wealth wrested from the surrounding country. The population is about three hundred and fifty souls, mostly permanent residents, the percentage of floating population being remarkably small. The stores keep excellent stocks, much of which is shipped through large wholesale houses in Montreal and Toronto. Competition has made the merchants keen in buying, and the same cause assures to the purchaser articles at a low price. The older stores are frame buildings, but investors as they gain confidence in the country put their money into more permanent buildings; thus the newer stores are built of stone and brick.

The town possesses two elevators, with a total capacity of eighty-five thousand bushels, and ability to handle ten thousand bushels per day. In addition to these, there is a flour mill fitted with patent roller process machinery and capable of making one hundred and twenty barrels of flour a day, thus consuming daily over five hundred bushels of wheat. The flour has taken a high place in the market, and is in demand all over the Dominion.

A public hall, built by a few citizens, and fitted with a proscenium, has proved a great boon to the town. In it the county court is held every three months; and, until their new

church is erected, the Presbyterians, who in number have entirely outgrown their old meeting house, use it on Sunday for service. The other denominations with churches in the town are the Episcopal and Methodist.

The town is provided with a school built of stone and containing two school rooms. Virden is one of the towns in the Province chosen for training teachers who desire to obtain third-class certificates.

The townsite belongs to the Canada Northwest Land Company, and is divided into suitable lots. It is estimated that the elevators and mill will handle at least half a million bushels of wheat during the season. Virden has also a cheese-factory, capable of turning out over sixty thousand pounds of cheese in the season.

The following gentlemen have consented to act as committees to furnish information to settlers on arrival:

For Virden—W. J. Wilcox, Duncan McDonald, G. Miller.

For Elkhorn—W. M. Cushing, T. D. Cavanagh.

For Oak Lake—W. Thompson, E. Dickson.

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ELKHORN, MAN.

Largest Hotel in Town.

First-Class Accommodation for Travellers.

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Maps of the County and Lists of Vacant Land always on hand, and Land Guides furnished on the shortest notice.

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Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes,

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HARDWARE, CROCKERY, ETC.

Full lines of Settlers' Supplies.

Corner Rich Hill Avenue and Kildare Street,

ELKHORN, MAN.

WILLIAM M. CUSHING,

DEALER IN

Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware

AND

SETTLERS' GENERAL REQUISITES

ALL ARTICLES AT MODERATE PRICES

AND

QUALITIES GUARANTEED.

Mr. Cushing will be only too happy to meet

INTENDING SETTLERS

And afford them all Information.

ELKHORN, Dennis County, MAN.

CHRISTOPHER TRUMBELL,
BAKER AND CONFECTIONER

Dealer in Californian Fruits, Biscuits, etc.

Oyster Saloon. **Ice Cream Parlor.**

Wedding Cakes a Specialty.

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FOR SALE.

S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12, Tp. 9, Range 27. House 39x24; stone stable; granary; good water; 70 acres ready to crop this spring. Price \$2,600, on easy terms.

All necessary Farm Implements can be taken at a valuation; also 10 head of stock.

Apply to

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T. E. COLTER,

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7TH AVENUE, VIRDEN,

DEALER IN

Tea, Sugar, Canned Goods and all kinds of Groceries.

PASTRY-COOK AND CONFECTIONER.

Fancy Bread always on hand.

McLEAN & MOONEY,

Real Estate Office, Virden.

Improved and Unimproved Farms for Sale in the best part
of Dennis County.

City Property at Moderate Prices and on Easy Terms.

McDOWL & SARGEANT,

Wholesale and Retail

BUTCHERS AND STOCK DEALERS,

Nelson Street, Virden.

GEO. H. ROWSWELL,

Importer and General Merchant,

ELKHORN, County Dennis,

—AND—

BEULAH, Co. Shoal Lake.

All Merchandise required by Farmers & Settlers

CONSTANTLY ON HAND,

AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

Dry Goods, Ready-Made Clothing,

Boots and Shoes, Groceries,

SHELF & HEAVY HARDWARE, COAL

PAINTS AND OILS,

HARNESS, CROCKERY, FURNITURE,

SEWING MACHINES, FLOUR, FEED, &c.

TEAS A SPECIALTY,

Imported direct from growers in CHINA AND JAPAN.

Issuer of Marriage Licenses,

LOAN AGENT, COMMISSIONER, ETC.

ELKHORN.

The town of Elkhorn is situated on Section 3, Township 12, Range 28, and is the most westerly town in the County, and also in the Province. It is the market town for a large wheat district, and the grain raised is of a superior quality. This season, up to the end of January, over 80,000 bushels have been marketed. The town is well provided with stores, at which the intending settler can make purchases of anything he needs at reasonable prices. The hotel accommodation is good. There are two grain warehouses at this point, Messrs. Ogilvie's, which will hold 15,000 bushels, and Mr. H. M. Powers', capable of containing 7,000 bushels. During this season, too, Mr. Fraser has been buying wheat for Mr. A. Mitchell, of the Keewatin Flour Mills. The Canada Pacific Railway makes this a coaling station, and their sheds hold many thousand tons of coal. Water of first-class quality is very abundant at a depth of only eight feet. While the business of the town is good, the religious education of the people is not neglected. The Church of England congregation hold service in their own church, a neat building, a credit to the town and people. Presbyterian service is held at the school house, but this congregation intend erecting a church during the ensuing spring. An Indian industrial school is in course of erection. It is a two storied building, containing eleven rooms, and is intended to accommodate about thirty children. This is a branch of the Indian industrial school at Sault St. Marie, and was built by private subscription. The education of Indian children is a work in which the Rev. E. F. Wilson, the founder of these schools, has taken great interest for many years. It has been found that it is better to educate and train Indian children at a distance from the Indian Reserves, as they are removed from the influence of their parents. A glance at the Dominion free lands' list will show that there is a large quantity of free farms in the immediate vicinity of Elkhorn. The soil is admirably adapted for raising wheat, and there is a good sprinkling of hay land throughout the entire district. Any enterprising man of capital, who would build a grist mill at this point, would, without doubt, make a fortune in a few years.

THE THOMPSON HOUSE

OAK LAKE, DENNIS CO., MAN.

W. THOMPSON, Proprietor.

LIVERY STABLE IN CONNECTION.

The largest and best Hotel in Oak Lake, with ample accommodation for
SIXTY GUESTS.

Intending Settlers furnished with Land Guides on shortest
notice by the proprietor, who is one of the pioneer
settlers of Manitoba.

CHARGES MODERATE.

EDWARD DICKSON,

General Dealer in

Dry Goods, Ready-Made Clothing,

BOOTS AND SHOES, HATS AND CAPS,

GROCERIES, ETC.

Oak Lake, - Dennis Co., - Manitoba.

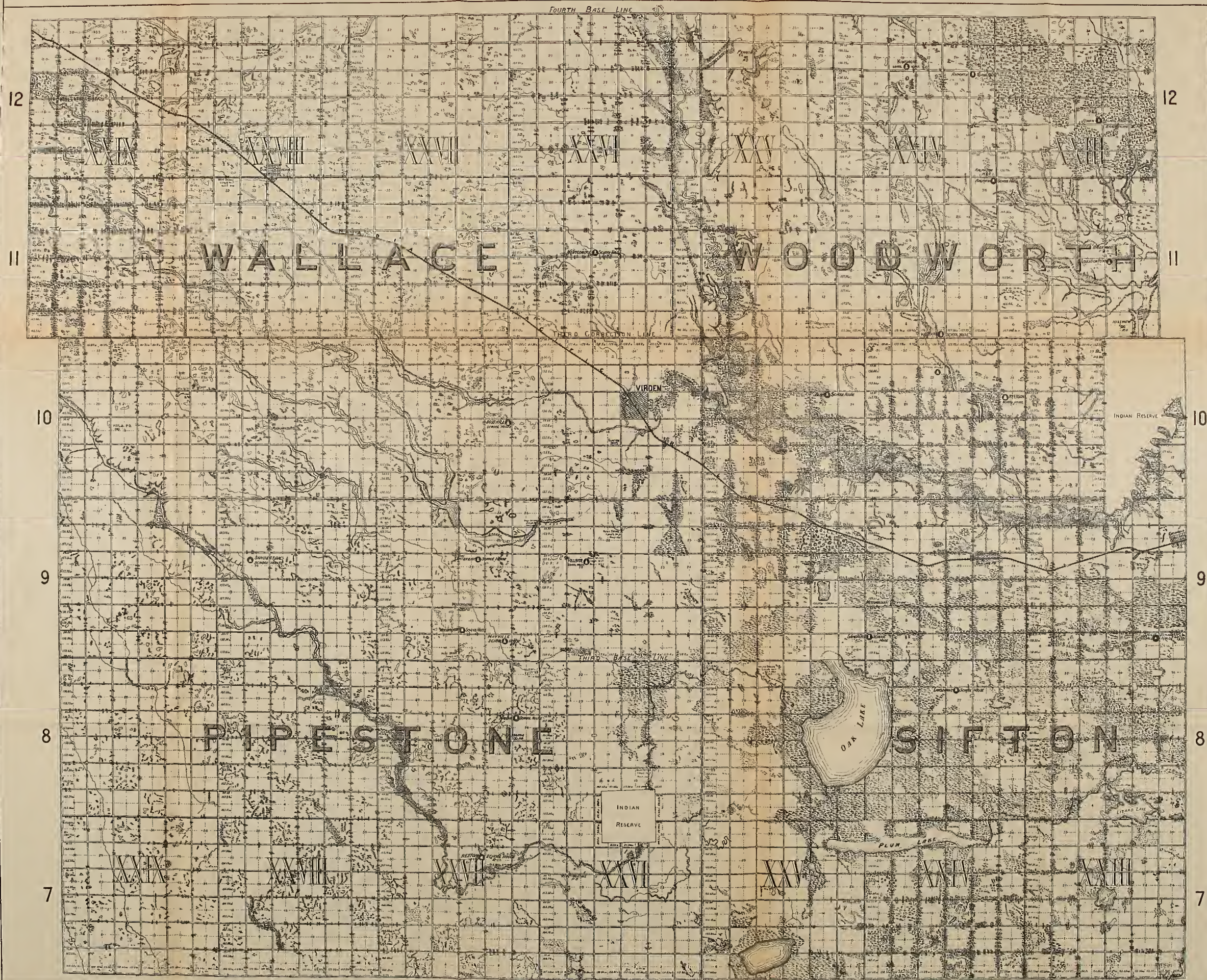
OAK LAKE.

The town of Oak Lake is situated in the eastern part of the County of Dennis, in the Municipality of Sifton. It is a busy, thriving town, and has good stores at which all supplies necessary for settlers may be obtained. Intending settlers cannot be too strongly advised of the fact that every necessary can be bought in these western towns at moderate prices, and that it will pay rather to bring their money than a large quantity of "emigrant's effects."

Oak Lake possessed a capital grist mill, but unfortunately it was destroyed by fire a short time since, but at the present moment arrangements are being made to rebuild it on a much larger scale, and as soon as spring opens operations will commence.

The country in the vicinity of the town is well adapted for stock, as the timber protects cattle from all cold winds. To the north is a magnificent wheat district, and beyond the timber to the south great quantities of wheat are raised. The lake itself (about six miles from the railway station) is the largest sheet of water in the county, and in the season is literally covered with water-fowl, affording excellent sport. It is beautifully situated, and in the long summer time thousands of pleasure hunters seek its shores. The town has two Sunday services—Presbyterian and English Church—and is noted for the liberal manner in which they are supported.

MAP OF DENNIS COUNTY MANITOBA



J. H. BROWNLEE, D.L.S.,
Map Publisher, Brandon, Man.

EXPLANATION.

To find the position on the County of Dennis map of S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, under the heading of Township 8, Range 24, on the list:— Look along the township numbers on the right hand side of the map until you find Township 8. This township extends right across the country from east to west, and is in seven different ranges. Now, at the upper part of the map find Range 24 (the ranges are numbered in Roman figures), and follow the range south until you strike Township 8, and you have the township and range you are in search of. Now look at the bottom right hand corner (the southeast corner) of the township, and you will find the sections marked from right to left up to Section 6 and then on the next row of sections above from left to right, and so on through the township. Find Section 2. You will see that this section is divided into four quarters, which are named from their positions the north-east quarter, the northwest quarter, the southwest quarter, and the southeast quarter—the quarter we are in search of. Where a half section is vacant it is described as the north, south, east or west half, as the case may be. As each section is a mile square, the distance from the railway, school, and post office can be accurately found out by a glance at the map. The small figures found in many quarter sections and in lands adjacent to bodies of water, show the exact area of that quarter section or piece of land. These variations are due to necessary corrections in the survey.

The following is a list of Dominion Lands open for homesteading and pre-emption entry. One hundred and sixty acres (a quarter section) can be secured by payment of ten dollars, and one hundred and sixty acres in addition can be pre-empted for an additional ten dollars. At the end of three years the homestead becomes the property of the settler without further payment, provided that the homestead duties as required by the law have been performed. At the end of this time the settler has also the privilege of buying his pre-emption from the Government at the rate of two and a half dollars per acre.

LIST OF DOMINION LANDS

Open for Homestead and Pre-Emption Entry in
the County of Dennis.

Corrected and Revised to January 26th, 1888.

- Township 7, Range 23.
S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 18, N. E. q. r. 20, S $\frac{1}{2}$ 22.
- Township 8, Range 23.
W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30. All 34.
- Township 9, Range 23.
N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 10, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 16.
- Township 10, Range 23.
S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2. All 10.
- Township 12, Range 23.
N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 34.
- Township 7, Range 24.
All 4, all 10, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, all 16, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 18, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, all 20, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 30, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 32, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.
- Township 8, Range 24.
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4, all 6, all 10, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 16, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 34, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.
- Township 9, Range 24.
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22.
- Township 10, Range 24.
S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14.
- Township 11, Range 24.
N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, all 10, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 34, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34.
- Township 12, Range 24.
E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22.
- Township 7, Range 25.
N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, all 4, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 10, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 10, all 12, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34, all 36.
- Township 8, Range 25.
All 2, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4, all 10, all 12, all 14, all 16, S $\frac{1}{2}$ 20, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 20, all 22, all 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 30, all 34, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.

Township 9, Range 25.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 16, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24.

Township 10, Range 25.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, W. 28.

Township 11, Range 25.

W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 32.

Township 12, Range 25.

S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 20, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32.

Township 7, Range 26.

W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12.

Township 8, Range 26.

W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22, all 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26,
all 34, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.

Township 9, Range 26.

S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24.

Township 10, Range 26.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36.

Township 11, Range 26.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36.

Township 12, Range 26.

E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12, all 14.

Township 7, Range 27.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 10, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, N.
W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 20, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28,
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 30, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32.

Township 8, Range 27.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 10, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, W.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, all 32.

Township 9, Range 27.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6.

Township 10, Range 27.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6.

Township 11, Range 27.

E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 34.

Township 12, Range 27.

S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, all 16, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 20, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22, S.
E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34.

Township 7, Range 28.

All 2, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, all 10, all 12, all 14, all 16, all 18,
all 20, all 22, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28,
all 30, all 32, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.

Township 8, Range 28.

All 2, all 4, all 6, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 10, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 14,
N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, all 16, all 20, all 22, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24,
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28, all 30, all 32, all 34.

Township 9, Range 28.

S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4, all 6, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, N. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18,
N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 34, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34.

Township 10, Range 28.

S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 2, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30.

Township 11, Range 28.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 16, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 18, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 20, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24,
N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 30, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.

Township 12, Range 28.

E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 30, all 32.

Township 7, Range 29.

All 2, all 4, all 6, all 10, all 12, all 14, all 16, all 18, all 20
all 22, all 24, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 26, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26, all 28, all 30, all 32
all 34, all 36.

Township 8, Range 29.

All 2, all 4, all 6, all 10, all 12, all 14, all 16, all 18, all 20,
all 22, all 24, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 26, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26, all 28, all 30, all
32, all 34, all 36.

Township 9, Range 29.

All 2, all 4, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 6, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 10, all 12, all 16, S. W.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ 18, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 18, all 20, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 22, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26,
all 28, all 30, all 32, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36.

Township 10, Range 29.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, all 6, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 18, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$
22, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36.

Township 11, Range 29.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 4, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 16, N. $\frac{1}{2}$
22, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24.

Township 12, Range 29.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 12, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22, all 24, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 26, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 28, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28,
W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 30, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34.

FARMS FOR SALE.

For Sale, Section 25, Township 10, Range 25,

Containing 640 acres first class land ; 335 acres broken. The buildings are unsurpassed in the County, and consist of a two storey frame house, 48 feet by 24 feet, frame granary, 12 feet by 46 feet, and stone stable, 40 feet by 60 feet. Soil sandy loam.

Price—\$6,500 on easy terms.

Apply to

A. G. McDOUGALL, Virden.

IMPROVED FARM FOR SALE.

Being the East Half Section 36, Township 14, Range 24,
and containing 320 acres of first-class land.

One Hundred and Sixty Acres Plowed,

and will be cropped this spring. Good two storey log house, 18 feet by 24 feet ; two log stables and log granary.

Price, including crop, \$2,000.

Apply to

W. J. PALMER, Virden.

AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.

160 Acres on Section 32, Township 10, Range 28.

Only 5½ miles from Elkhorn, and Church and School within reasonable distance. Sixty-five acres broken. Wire fenced pasture thirty acres in extent. Two hundred tons hay can be cut on this farm annually. The buildings are a well built two storey frame house, 16 feet by 24 feet ; frame stable, with hayloft, 24 feet by 14 feet ; frame granary, 12 feet by 24 feet.

Price—Only \$10 per acre, including all improvements. Cash required \$500, balance to suit purchaser.

Apply to

W. J. PALMER, Virden.

IMPROVED FARMS FOR SALE

West $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 17, Township 8, Range 26.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ " 2, " 9, " 27.

S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ " 22, " 11, " 24.

East $\frac{1}{2}$ " 34, " 11, " 29.

For Prices and Conditions of Sale apply to or address

H. H. GOULTER, VIRDEN.

All Section 35, Township 11, Range 24.

330 acres cultivated.

All Section 25, Township 11, Range 24.

300 acres cultivated.

N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 29, Township 9, Range 23.

Log buildings; 20 acres cultivated.

N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 29, Township 9, Range 23.

Log buildings; 15 acres cultivated.

For Prices and Conditions of Sale apply to or address

WM. CHAMBERS, OAK LAKE.



JOHN ELLIOTT & SON, VIRDEN, MAN.,

Manufacturers of all kinds of Agricultural Implements,

STEAM AND HORSE-POWER THRESHERS,
Milwaukee Junior Binder,

The lightest and best binder in the world; draught 250 lbs., weight 1150 lbs.

Warrior Mower,

Champion Rake,

Champion Seeder,

Breaking and Cross Plows,

Iron Harrows,

Disc Harrows,

Grain Crushers,

Sulky Plows.

A full stock of goods and repairs always on hand.

W. J. MAY,
Manager.

W. W. JOSLIN,
Travelling Agent.

ALWAYS ON HAND AT
WILCOX & CO.'S

The Largest and Best Stock in the County.

— COMPRISING —

*Dry Goods,
Readymade Clothing,
Gent's Furnishings,
Boots & Shoes,
Groceries, &c.,
Crockery, &c.*

DIRECT TEA IMPORTERS

CLOTHING MADE TO ORDER A SPECIALTY.

Corner 6th Avenue & Nelson Street,
VIRDEN, MAN.

